

Colorado Divorce Preparation Checklist

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Colorado Divorce & Family Law Attorneys



A Step-by-Step Guide to Help You Get Organized Before Filing for Divorce



FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS TO GATHER



Collect copies of the following documents for the past 1-3 years

Banking & Accounts

- Checking Account Statements
- Savings Account Statements
- Joint Account Statements
- Online Banking Login Info (if legally permissible)



Credit & Debt

- Credit Card Statements
- Personal Loan Statements
- Joint Account Statements
- Student Loan Documents
- Home Equity Loan Statement



Income & Employment

- Pay Stubs for Both Spouses
- W-2 or 1099 Forms
- Employment Contracts or Bonus Agreements
- Business Ownership Documents or Ledgers



Investments & Retirement

- 401 (k), IRA, Pension or PERA Statements
- Brokerage Account Statements
- Stock Option Information
- Cryptocurrency Account Statements (if applicable)

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS TO GATHER

Tax & Property

- Federal & State Tax Returns for 3 to 5 Yrs
- Mortgage Statements
- Property Deeds
- Rental Property Documents
- Vehicle Titles
- Appraisals for Valuable Items

Insurance & Other Assets

- Life Insurance Policies
- Home & Auto Insurance Policies
- Health Insurance Documentation
- List of Photos of Valuable Property & Household Items



PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD PREPARATION

Identify & Legal Documents

- Social Security Cards
- Birth Certificates
- Passports
- Prenuptial or Postnuptial Agreements (if any)

Account & Information Security

- Create A Private Email Account
- Change Passwords for Banking, Cloud Storage and Social Accounts
- Secure Important Documents in a Safe Location

Housing Considerations

- Identify if you plan to remain in the marital home
- Understand financial responsibilities for the home
- Consider the impact of moving on parenting time

CHILD-RELATED PREPARATION

Parenting Plan Considerations

- Weekday and Weekend Schedules
- Holiday Rotations
- School and Extracurricular Coordination
- Transportation Details
- Communication Plans Between Parents

Information to Gather

- School Records and Academic Information
- Medical and Dental Records
- Therapy or Counseling Documents (if applicable)
- Preferred Childcare or Supervision Plans

Child Support Preparation

- Childcare Expenses
- Health Insurance Premiums
- Extracurricular Costs
- Expected Educational Expenses



EMOTIONAL AND LOGISTICAL PREPARATION

Support System

- Identify trusted friends or family for support
- Consider working with a therapist or counselor
- Research local support groups

Personal Readiness

- Define your goals for custody
- Outline your financial needs after divorce
- Determine priorities for property division
- Prepare for negotiation and compromise



LEGAL PREPARATION

Before Hiring an Attorney

- Research Colorado divorce laws and requirements
- Determine whether you meet the residency requirement
- Consider your readiness for mediation or negotiation



When Meeting with Your Attorney

Bring the following questions:

- What are my rights under Colorado divorce law?
- What should I avoid doing before filing?
- What is the likely cost and timeline for my case?
- What can I expect regarding parenting time?
- What financial obligations may apply?
- What should I do immediately to protect my interests

Optional but Recommended Steps

- Create a post-divorce budget
- Freeze or monitor joint credit accounts
- Obtain a copy of your credit report
- Document property or valuables with photos
- Gather messages or evidence that may be relevant to your case
- Start a journal documenting parenting involvement and schedules